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EATENT APPLICATION

09/910,697

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mark B. Lyles

Serial No.:

09/910.697

Filing Date:

July 20, 2001

Group Art Unit:

In re Application of:

1623

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

MAY 01 2003

RECEIVED

Examiner:

Owens Jr., Howard V.

Title:

MATERIALS AND METHODS FOR BINDING

NUCLEIC ACIDS TO SURFACES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date shown below.

EV230873775US

Express Mail No

Shannon Judice

11/00/102

Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND AMENDMENT

Applicant acknowledges receipt of the Office Action mailed March 26, 2003, which sets forth an election of species requirement. In response to the election of species requirement, Applicant hereby elects with traverse to prosecute SPECIES 1 (Claims 19-28). Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application for the cancelled claims (Claims 1-18) at a later date.